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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR YO IT
SUBJ: GENERALS REITERATE CHARGES OF NATO PRESSURE
ON YUGOSLAVIA

1. THE CHARGE THAT NATO MANEUVERS IN THE NORTHERN ADRIATIC AT THE TIME OF THE DISPUTE OVER TRIESTE WERE A FORM OF PRESSURE ON YUGOSLAVIA WAS REITERATED IN INTERVIEWS AND ARTICLES WRITTEN BY TWO GENERALS WHICH RAN IN FOUR PUBLICATIONS IN THE PAST WEEK. COL. GEN IVAN DOLNICAR, WHO IN ADDITION TO BEING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE IN CHARGE OF FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL LIAISON, HOLDS THE KEY POSITION OF SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL, WAS INTERVIEWED IN THE MAY 9 EDITION OF NLADOST, WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE YUGOSLAV UNION OF YOUTH (SOJ) LT. GEN STJEPAN DOMANKUSIC (OUR RECORDS SHOW HIM IN 1971 AS A DEPUTY CHIEF OF STATE SECURITY) WROTE ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED IN THE MAY 6 EDITION OF LCY ORGAN KOMUNIST AND MAY 9 EDITION OF NARODNA ARMIJA, WHICH IN TURN WAS EXCERPTED IN POLITIKA MAY 9.

2. IN THE MLADOST INTERVIEW, WHICH TOOK PLACE "RECENTLY", THE QUESTIONER ASKED WHETHER THE "SITUATION IN THE
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MEDITERRANEAN AND THE NEAR EAST" THREATENS YUGOSLAVIA.

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DOLNICAR REFERRED TO THE "STRONG NAVAL ARMED FORCES OF THE GREAT POWERS" IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND SAID THE "PRESSURE EXERTED BY IMPERIALISTIC FORCES AND THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION IN THE NEAR EAST HAD NOT STOPPED", CONTINUING THAT "REACTIONARY FORCES" WORK ON "DISRUPTION OF UNITY OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES". "IF ONE ADDS TO THIS THE DEMONSTRATION OF COMBINED MILITARY AND NAVAL FORCES OF NATO IN THE NORTHERN ADRIATIC AND ITS COINCIDENCE WITH TERRITORIAL CLAIMS RAISED BY THE ITALIAN GOVT AGAINST OUR COUNTRY," DOLNICAR CONTINUED, "THEN, IN THE EVENT, THAT MENACE ACQUIRES SPECIAL DIMENSIONS."

3. GENERAL DOMANKUSIC'S ARTICLES WERE WRITTEN IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YUGOSLAV SECURITY SERVICES. IN THE KOMUNIST VERSION HE DISCUSSES THE NEED FOR VIGILANCE BECAUSE OF EXTERIOR FORCES WHICH DESIRE TO BRING PRESSURE ON NONALIGNED COUNTRIES AND UNDERMINE THEIR UNITY AND ACTIVITIES, AND SAYS, "IT IS KNOWN THAT, IN THIS CONTEXT, THERE HAVE BEEN LATELY INCREASINGLY FREQUENT ATTEMPTS AIMED AT EXERTING PRESSURE AND DIRECTLY INTERFERING IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS INCLUDING THE RECENT NOTE OF THE ITALIAN GOVT AND MANEUVERS OF NATO FORCES (THE UNITED STATE AND ITALY) IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF OUR STATE BORDER WITH ITALY." SIMILAR LANGUAGE WAS CARRIED IN NARODNA ARMIJA, AND POLITIKA EXCERPTED THE PERTINENT PASSAGE WITHOUT, HOWEVER, MAKING THE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ITALY AND THE UNITED STATES.

4. COMMENT: THESE REFERENCES TO THE NATO MANEUVERS ARE THE FIRST TO BE MADE BY YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS SINCE THE END OF THE LAST OF THE REPUBLICAN/PROVINCIAL PARTY CONGRESSES APRIL 25.
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